

WHEATON URBAN DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

February 5, 2010

The Honorable Isiah Leggett Montgomery County Executive **Executive Office Building** 101 Monroe Street, 2nd Floor Rockville, Maryland 20850

Dear Mr. Leggett:

The Wheaton Urban District Advisory Committee (WUDAC) received a briefing by Delegate Al Carr on his proposed State bill, MC 2-10 – Enterprise Zones-County Tax Credits. We wish to share our position on this proposed bill with you.

Under the current program guidelines, as administered by the State, benefits to property owners in a designated zone are given through two tax credits – jobs creation and property improvement. As such, if a business owner makes property improvements or adds jobs, but is not the owner but a tenant, the business owner is not eligible for the incentives, while the property owner is. This is an unmerited award of tax credits.

The proposed legislation would allow Enterprise Zones to make a more equitable distribution of tax credits which would encourage leasing businesses to grow and make property improvements.

The Wheaton Urban District Advisory Committee feels this bill would be of great benefit to downtown Wheaton businesses and we urge you to take a position of support in the upcoming State legislative session.

Sincerely,

Brett Schneider

Chair

